

beginner in biology. The book can be recommended to both students in elementary biology and laymen. F. E. B.

**Manual of Vital Function Testing Methods and Their Interpretation.** By Wilfred M. Barton, M. D. Second revised and enlarged edition. Boston: Richard G. Badger. 1917. Price \$1.50.

In this valuable little compilation the author aims to present the more recent functional methods for studying the more important organs—the liver, kidneys, heart, pancreas and ductless glands. The wide interest which clinicians are now taking in the study of the functional pathology of disease, as opposed to the control of clinical work by the method of pathological anatomy, gives such a work as this more than a timely interest. The author has attempted to describe most of the important tests presented in modern medical literature, but it is fair to say that not all of the numerous functional tests described in medical periodicals and summarized in this book have proven of real value. Indeed, only a few have stood the test of time. The value of the work would have been materially enhanced had the author better sifted his material and, of the numerous methods described, laid stress upon those alone which have proved of real value in clinical diagnosis.

S. H. H.

**Clinical Diagnosis. A Manual of Laboratory Methods.** By James Campbell Todd, M. D., Professor of Pathology, University of Colorado. Fourth edition, revised and reset. 12 mo. of 687 pages with 232 text illustrations and 12 colored plates. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company. 1918. Cloth, \$3.00 net.

Todd's laboratory manual, now in its fourth revision, is a book especially intended for students' and physicians' laboratory use, and to this end meets all requirements. It is not a comprehensive laboratory text-book. The author has selected usually the best and simplest methods and these are presented in sufficient detail to be made use of by those who have not had any considerable degree of laboratory training. Refinements of older tests are frequently noted and certain newer tests, such as the concentration method for malarial parasite, urobilin determination and the mastic spinal fluid test are included. The introductory chapter on the use of the microscope is to be especially commended. The physician who interests himself in laboratory procedures will find this little volume of considerable assistance.

E. A. V.

**Dispensaries: Their Management and Development.** By Michael M. Davis, Jr., and Andrew R. Warner. New York: Macmillan Company.

This book is a notable contribution to the modern literature of medicine and sociology. The subject is treated with thoroughness and broadness, and in a style which makes it accessible not only to the medically-trained man but to every person who seeks information in the far-reaching changes which are taking place at present in the medical profession the world over. The "Dispensary" is discussed in this book since its early incipency in England until its latest and fullest development in this country. Nothing is lacking in this volume: The aim and purpose of the dispensary is discussed; admirable building plans skilfully presented; detailed suggestions in regard to the organization and conduct of the clinic elaborately dealt with, and the establishment and maintenance of a social-service department in conjunction with the clinic fully explained. It is a book worth while reading in these days of social reconstruction.

A. G.

**Medical Clinics of Chicago.** Volume 2, Number 1 (July, 1918). Octavo of 311 pages, 57 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saun-

ders Company, 1918. Published bi-monthly.

Price per year: Paper, \$10.00; Cloth, \$14.00.

Contents.—Frank S. Meara: Hyperpiesia of Clifford Allbutt. William H. Park: Practical immunization against diphtheria. Frederick Tilney: Wilson's disease. W. L. Niles: Subacute non-tubercular pulmonary infection. C. B. Slade: Relation of pulmonary tuberculosis to general practice. E. Libman: Clinical features of subacute streptococcus endocarditis in the bacterial stage. Thos. F. Reilly: Minor and misleading early symptoms of disease of heart and circulation. R. G. Snyder: Discussion of three unusual cases of aneurysm of thoracic aorta. W. J. Heimann: Relation of internal disturbances to dermatologic conditions. M. H. Bass: Cutaneous manifestations of acute rheumatic fever in childhood. O. M. Schloss: Acetone body acidosis in children. J. B. Neal: Epidemic meningitis. B. B. Crohn: Clinical conditions characterized by obstructive jaundice. S. P. Goodhart: Primary myopathies and their endocrine relationship. R. Ottenberg: Survey of hemorrhagic diseases with especial reference to blood findings.

**Mammalian Dentition.** By T. Wingate Todd. 290 p. 100 illustrations. St. Louis: Mosby. 1918. Price, \$3.00.

The author covers the salient features of mammalian odontologic evolution in a remarkably concise and pleasingly lucid style. He refers to his book, in the preface, as "a simple introduction to the study of teeth," but the volume is by no means an elementary one. The student should have a knowledge of palaeontology and vertebrate anatomy in order to read the work understandingly. Professor Todd displays a wide knowledge of his subject; in fact, his capacity for concise expression indicates extensive research and comprehensive understanding. The arrangement of the book is very satisfactory. A general introduction is followed by a consideration of mammalian genesis. The early study of the marsupialia as presenting adaptations to variations in dietary habits within a single order, is a great help to the evolutionary concept. The insectivores and primates are next considered; especially as leading up to Homo, in whom, naturally, our interest centers. The other orders such as carnivore, ungulate, etc., follow. Considerable attention is given the deciduous dentition, which is an important feature, as the milk teeth are undoubtedly of great evolutionary significance. Professor Todd has presented interesting material for thought in his remarks concerning the premolar analogy theory, and the specialization of the African, etc. I regret that the pressure of other duties has not permitted me the opportunity to give this work the close study and consideration that it merits, but I have added the volume to my library and look forward to the time when I can become more closely acquainted with it. It is well written, copiously illustrated, with excellent photographs and of an interesting style. It will be of particular interest to dentists.

F. V. S.

## Correspondence

### PHYSICIANS IN INDUSTRIAL PRACTICE.

Harrisburg, Pa., Dec. 23, 1918.

To the Editor:—Will you kindly call attention in the next issue of your journal to the fact that Dr. Francis D. Patterson, Chief, Division of Industrial Hygiene and Engineering, Department of Labor and Industry, Harrisburg, Pa., is desirous of obtaining a complete list of all physicians engaged in the practice of industrial medicine?

It has been the practice of this department to hold semi-annual conferences of industrial physicians and surgeons for several years. These con-